

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MADRID 00167 102043Z

67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 MC-02 ACDA-05

AID-05 IO-11 /092 W

----- 050442

O P 101450Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4188

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

CINCEUR

16TH AIR FORCE/CO

S E C R E T MADRID 0167

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, SP, MO, AG, SS

SUBJECT: GOS DENIES U.S. HAS MILITARY BASES IN CANARIES

SUMMARY: FOLLOWING SEVERAL MONTHS OF SPANISH PRESS SPECULATION THAT U.S. HAS AND/OR SEEKS MILITARY FACILITIES IN THE CANARIES, GOS HAS NOW ISSUED A DENIAL. END SUMMARY.

1. FOLLOWING THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS' MEETING ON JAN 9, INFORMATION AND TOURISM MINISTER MARTIN-GOMERO, SPEAKING IN CONTEXT OF ANNOUNCEMENT THAT BASE NEGOTIATIONS WITH US WOULD RESUME DURING COMING WEEK IN WASHINGTON, FLATLY DENIED RUMORS CONCERNING POSSIBLE US MILITARY BASES IN THE CANARIES.

2. THIS DENIAL FOLLOWS SEVERAL MONTHS OF RATHER TORTURED GEO-POLITICAL ANALYSIS IN ELEMENTS OF THE SPANISH PRESS MORE GIVEN TO SENSATIONALISM, WHICH HIGHLIGHTED CLAIMS THAT  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MADRID 00167 102043Z

US ALREADY HAS OR NOW SEEKS IN THE BASE NEGOTIATIONS

MILITARY FACILITIES IN THE CANARIES. SUCH STORIES HAVE DRAWN SUBSTANCE INTER ALIA FROM ACTUAL SPANISH AIR FORCE IMPROVEMENTS OF CERTAIN RUNWAYS IN THE CANARIES, FROM EVENTS IN THE SAHARA AND ANGOLA, AND FROM SPORADIC REPORTS OF US ARMS SHIPMENTS TO MOROCCO. US OBJECTIVE IS GENERALLY PURPORTED TO BE AN AIRBASE AT TENERIFE, POSSIBLY AS ALTERNATIVE TO AZORES FACILITIES, BUT IN ANY EVENT TO COMPLETE A SO-CALLED "ROTA--KENEITRA--CANARIES TRIANGLE" TO HELP DENY SOVIETS ACCESS TO THE ATLANTIC NEAR GIBRALTAR.

3. THESE STORIES FEED PARTIALLY ON WHAT HAS APPARENTLY BEEN APPEARING IN THE ALGERIAN PRESS (ALGIERS 3635) AND IN LE MONDE (ALGIERS 3342, MADRID 8048), ALLEGATIONS WHICH HAVE THEIR ATTRACTIVENESS FOR THOSE IN SPAIN WHO OPPOSE SPANISH INTEGRATION INTO WESTERN DEFENSES IN GENERAL, AND US BASES IN SPAIN SPECIFICALLY. ALSO ATTRACTED ARE THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO BLAME THE US FOR WHATEVER THEY CONSIDER HAS GONE WRONG IN THE SAHARA. THUS SUCH STORIES HAVE APPEARED MOSTLY IN THE MORE LEFTIST MAGAZINES (GUADIANA, CAMBIO 16, ETC.), BUT ALSO HAVE APPEARED IN THE NATIONAL MOVEMENT'S DAILY "ARRIBA" AND SOME OTHER LEADING NEWSPAPERS.

4. IT CAN BE ASSUMED THAT THIS PRESS ATTENTION TO THE CANARIES HAS SERVED TO SHARPEN SOMEWHAT THE ALREADY EXISTING OPPOSITION HERE TO LOCATION OF FOREIGN MILITARY FACILITIES IN THE CANARIES, SOMETHING WHICH MAY SPECIFICALLY INTEREST THOSE IN DOD WHO ARE WORKING ON THE GROUND-BASED ELECTRO-OPTICAL DEEP SPACE SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM--GEODSS (STATE 265588, MADRID 8285).

EATON

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY BASES, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976MADRID00167  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760010-0092  
**From:** MADRID  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760168/aaaacidt.tel  
**Line Count:** 90  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20 APR 2004 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <13 AUG 2004 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOS DENIES U.S. HAS MILITARY BASES IN CANARIES SUMMARY: FOLLOWING SEVERAL MONTHS OF SPANISH PRESS SPECULATION  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MARR, SP, MO, AG, SS  
**To:** ALGIERS STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006